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ROBERT STERLING YARD, *Editor*

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58

The Mission of Our National Parks

By VERNON KELLOGG

Permanent Secretary National Research Council

THE mission of the National Parks is to open our eyes and minds more widely to the scene of Nature and its significance. The Parks are dedicated to be enduring sources of recreation, of education and inspiration. In these chosen places there are great mountain peaks and canyons, solemn forests and sun-drenched, flower-studded meadows and vivid alpine gardens. There are glaciers and streams and waterfalls, shuddering volcanos and painted desert. In these places are the evidences of earth changes, the records of the making of the rocks and of the ascent of life. The mission of the National Parks is to expand our vision of the past and present work of the Great Builder of earth and of the life that inhabits it.

The National Parks are places of revelation. They offer the visitor something he cannot get elsewhere. They are unique. And, being unique, their pictures and lessons come to one with special emphasis. Their art is on the grand scale, their science is big with meaning. Each is a brilliantly illuminated chapter in the great American book of Nature. They invite us to read this book and to carry it away with us without price. For, once read, it is unforgettable.

How shall we enhance the mission of the Parks? By protecting them and by keeping them clean. By keeping out of them everything that detracts from their nobility, everything that scars and mars. And by adding to their noble company only new ones of like high and unique character. There is place and need in America for

innumerable city parks and many state parks, but of National Parks there can be but few for there are but few places that are of National Park gauge. These few should belong to all the people of the United States and be under the national oversight and care. In them should be complete conservation of all wild plant and animal life and complete care of all scenic features. They should be kept in as nearly primitive condition as is compatible with the necessities of access to them and enjoyment and inspiration from them. Thus, and only thus, can they reach their full mission.

This mission includes a strongly religious element. As science and art and religion more and more converge to form a single comprehensive world philosophy, the mission of the Parks assumes an ever-growing importance. The grandeur of Nature reveals the grandeur of Creation. The astronomers find this creative grandeur in the suns and planets of the heavens. But

we may readily find it here on earth. It is breathtakingly revealed in our National Parks. In these Parks one communes without intermediary directly with the Creator of Nature.

As the number of people who visit the Parks grows—there are more than a million a year now—the mission of the Parks is of ever-widening scope and ever-growing importance. And the Parks need more and more the exercise of protecting hands to preserve them from desecration. Let us all help see to it that they have the saving care they need and that their high mission shall never be impaired.

HERBERT HOOVER ON NATIONAL PARKS

THE movement to foster public parks for human outdoor life and conservation of wild life is one of our most beneficent public endeavors. And in it we need more action by the individual states.

We need also a distinction between the province and responsibilities of the States and the Federal Government.

My own thought is that the National Parks—the parks within the responsibility of the Federal Government—should be those of outstanding scientific and spiritual appeal, those that are unique in their stimulation and inspiration.

From his famous Address on Fishing to the National Conference on Outdoor Recreation, May, 1926.

Mission of the National Parks Association

By WALLACE W. ATWOOD

President of the Association

DURING the last fifty years the American people have established and developed a remarkable group of national parks. This has been one among the forward-looking movements in conservation that have characterized our national life during that period. We have been impelled by a desire to preserve for posterity the conspicuous and unique natural wonderlands of our country. We have wanted the places of greatest scenic beauty and those of greatest scientific or historic interest to remain the property of the nation rather than pass into private ownership.

Some of our National Parks are of special value to those who are interested in archaeology and others to those interested in American history. Most of them are remarkable outdoor laboratories for students of the natural sciences. There are few places in the world where so many profound lessons in geologic changes are so clearly shown as in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. There is no example on the surface of the earth where the work of weathering and of running water are so well illustrated as in that wonderful gorge. There are few, if any, mountain canyons where the work of streams and of alpine ice are as well illustrated as in the Yosemite. The Sequoia National Park contains the oldest and most majestic of the living objects on this earth. Crater Lake occupies a depression formed when a great volcanic mountain collapsed and "swallowed its head"; there is not another example

like this on the continent of North America. On the slopes of Mount Rainier are the largest and most superb of alpine glaciers in our country. The Yellowstone National Park illustrates more strikingly than any other known locality the many secondary phenomena of vulcanism. Where except in Glacier National Park can we find two great ranges of mountains that have traveled overland for at least fifteen miles and since coming to rest have been dissected by streams and glaciers? Where in this country are there archaeological records of equal interest to those in the Mesa Verde and the National monuments of the southwest?

For a time the parks were thought of as the playgrounds of America. They are and always should be delightful places for recreation. They are not and never should be centers of amusement. Their value lies in their inspirational and spiritual appeals and in their great educational significance. High standards have been established for admission into the group of National Parks and from now on each time that a park is established we should aim to select the outstanding example of some type of landscape.

The National Parks Association has assumed the chief responsibility of keeping before the American people the highest of ideals for their parks. It represents the great body of American citizens who wish to see these choicest of our wonderlands preserved in their natural beauty, to the end that each coming generation may enjoy them fully as much as we have.

The ideals which the American people hold for their parks will determine the policies which will be followed in the utilization of these lands. Each new generation must come to appreciate the unique features associated with our National Park System. Each new group of administrative officers needs the support of public opinion in order to carry forward the plans which are being made for a great educational program with the millions who visit the parks.

The National Parks Association is cooperating actively with the National Parks Service and with all organizations in this country that stand for the conservation of plant and animal life in its native state, or are interested in the preservation of unique examples of scenic beauty or historic significance in our country.

All who join our Association have the satisfaction that comes only from unselfish acts; they will help carry forward a consistent and progressive program through the periods of one administration after another, for the preservation and most appropriate utilization of the unique wonderlands of our country.

Join and make this work more effective.

STANDARDS, SAYS WILBUR, MUST BE MAINTAINED

"**O**UR great national parks system," says Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, "is primarily of value to the country because of the permanent inspirational and educational values inherent in varying degrees in the individual members.

"The standard for the creation of a national park is a high one and it must be maintained by the exclusion of scenic areas possessing merely local appeal and not having the essential element of national interest.

"The preservation of their natural wilderness state is vital, so that the national parks may continue to serve their great purpose in the education, health and enjoyment of the people."

The Case for National Park Standards

Editorial in the Saturday Evening Post, October 12, 1929

ONE of the most valuable of this country's assets, the national-park system, has been revealed fully only in the past ten years. The nineteen units vary in merit; not all evoke the awe of the Grand Canyon or the Yosemite. But in general they are distinctive in an exceedingly high degree. Each has striking characteristics, and quite obviously the standard of admission of a new area to this classification should be equally eminent and if possible equal to the best. In recent years the public has learned fairly well the meaning of a national park as a reservation containing scenic or other natural features so unusual and outstanding in their power to stimulate and inspire that it truly deserves the title "national." If this standard is lived up to in the admission of future parks, the system as a whole will always serve as one of the foremost educational and even spiritual agencies in the land.

But these very facts have given not only the parks themselves but the surrounding areas enormous adver-

AS STERLING is to SILVER

From an Address by

Representative Louis C. Cramton
of Michigan

THE great danger for Congress, because of its enthusiasm for national parks, is that we may go too far and create too many parks and some of them of a character that would lower the National Park standards. As a matter of fact the term "National Park" ought to be like the word "sterling" is to silver. It ought to indicate outstanding merit.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE

Resolution December 31, 1929

IN VIEW of the present discussion of the National Parks System and of numerous proposals for its extension, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, with its 19,000 members and 120 associated organizations, desires to reaffirm its position in resolutions adopted in December, 1927, as follows:

(1) Approves the creation of those national parks only which meet the highest standards of the system, namely, which are wholly or almost wholly areas of original, unmodified natural conditions, each a unique example of its landscape or geologic type in the country; and

(2) Declares that, as the only reservational system for preservation of the primitive and majestic in nature, the protection inviolate of the system of national parks demands extraordinary watchfulness and care; and

(3) Recognizes that, by reason of its peculiar limitations and conditions, the system of national parks possesses facilities for popular education in nature and for inspiration which have incalculable value to individuals and the nation.

tising value. Tourists are attracted in large numbers, and the tourist industry has become one of the foremost means of livelihood in many sections. Naturally the scenic features which constitute a national park are commonly found in rather sparsely settled areas, where the great aggregate wealth which follows concentration of industry is absent. Consequently the advertising, the stream of tourists and the large appropriations from the Federal Treasury that go with a national undertaking are all the more welcome. As a result, there is constant and increasing pressure upon Congress for new national parks, each regular and special session witnessing a perfect flood of bills for that purpose.

Now there is not an authority worthy the name who dissents from the view that state recreational needs should be cared for by state parks. This country abounds in untold millions of acres of pleasant woodland cut-over land, gullies, swamps, hills, meandering streams, ranches and farms. If states or counties or cities, where there are cities, wish to lay aside such areas for water-conservation purposes or for forestry or for recreation, and can afford to do so, let them take such action by all means. These areas do not constitute a national park. But such simple and conclusive reasoning does not appeal to a congressman desirous of advertising his own state or district. Thus the bills to create new national parks here, there and almost literally everywhere are legion.

Thus far the executive departments of the Government, backed by the conservation organizations, have been quite successful in opposing admission of new parks which were not considered up to standard. One bill opposed by numbers of these groups, however, did pass the last regular session of Congress and died only as the result of President Coolidge's pocket veto. This

leads us to consider the most remarkable feature of the whole situation. As a rule, government departments wish to expand. Their desire is to aggrandize power, to take on more functions and officials and to increase their budgets. Bill after bill to create new national parks has been opposed, however, not only by the National Park Service and the Interior Department, which have direct jurisdiction, but by the National Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture.

Obviously the best judges of whether an area should be included in the national-park system are the trained administrators of the system itself. The fact that large groups in Congress, and even at times a majority have gone over the heads of the actual trained administrators smacks altogether too much of politics in the sense of the word which is so rightly deplored. It even seems like the pork barrel of earlier days.

No true lover of the national parks wants the system diluted or submerged by substandard areas. The integrity of the system is of real national importance. Yet it requires a fight in each session of Congress to maintain that integrity. No congressman likes to oppose a fellow's pet project. If he does he may have great difficulty in getting his own necessary and meritorious measures through. Thus, many votes are mustered easily for any measure which seems at first glance of a merely local nature and not likely to arouse the general public. An enormous burden is placed upon the committees to weed out these bills, and on the whole they do an excellent job. But they need the support of public sentiment. Millions of men and women have beheld the sublime features of the national parks, and many have been reinvigorated and uplifted. Surely they cannot want such standards broken down.

NATIONAL PARK STANDARDS

As defined in 1918 by

FRANKLIN K. LANE

*President Woodrow Wilson's first Secretary
of the Interior*

"IN studying new park projects," Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane wrote Director Stephen T. Mather of the National Park Service, May 13, 1918, "you should seek to find scenery of supreme and distinct quality, or some natural feature so extraordinary or unique as to be of national interest and importance. You should seek distinguished examples of typical forms of world architecture. * * * The National Parks System as now constituted should not be lowered in standard, dignity and prestige by the inclusion of areas which express in less than the highest terms the particular class or kind of exhibit which they represent."

Concerning National Parks

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT

Director, National Park Service

THE National Parks System was not the result of prevision, but a development of the instinct to preserve the extraordinary and supremely beautiful in a land of amazing beauty. The creators of Yellowstone had no idea that they were starting a program—least of all the finest and most diversified scenic system that the world was ever to know. Congress referred the bill to the Interior Department for study and followed its advice.

At that time, and eighteen years later when Yosemite, Sequoia and General Grant were set apart on the Pacific coast from the same impulse, following in their making the identical government procedure, little was known of the vast wilderness between, which later was to yield other parks so magnificent. But in 1890, with four national parks instead of one, it was evident that a System was in the building, and successive Congresses and Administrations began to choose carefully, selecting the noblest typical landscapes combined with primitive natural conditions that the country had to offer.

That several diminutive creations of state pride, all combined less than forty square miles in area, crept in before the idea fairly crystallized was not surprising—the wonder is that many more manifest blunders were not perpetrated in the early making. Some day public opinion will dictate the transfer of these to more appropriate classifications. The future of all inter-related unindustrial public lands is shaping rapidly.

While the activities of material progress remained in the valleys miles from our national parks, building to plan met no opposition, but when grazing and water power sought higher altitudes, business attacked the System's standards in Congress and could only be beaten off by the expressions of public protest that arose throughout the nation. And when the automobile had meshed the surface of America with fine hard roads, many regions unattractive to travel, believing that it was national parks which attracted motorists by the millions, demanded national parks of their own, irrespective of standards. This promotion of unfit national parks must be challenged, since otherwise a spurious stamp of "sterling" on local scenery without national distinction will quickly depreciate the scenic value of the whole system.

In recent years the principle that public lands should be classified each according to its major use has received general acceptance. Congress is making funds available for examination and study of prospective park and monument areas with view to classification of values for national park or monument purposes. Our main jobs now are to perfect and protect the existing system and to promote its educational and inspirational uses.

National Parks System at a Glance

Contains twenty-one parks with a total area of 12,118 square miles. Together, they combine scenic features of greater magnificence and wider variety than are comfortably accessible in all the rest of the world combined, constituting our National Gallery of Scenic Masterpieces.

National parks in order of creation	Location	Areas in square miles	Distinctive characteristics
Yellowstone..... 1872	Northwestern Wyoming.....	3,426	The world's most spectacular volcanic exhibit—More geysers than in all rest of world together—Boiling springs—Mud volcanoes—Petrified forests—Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, remarkable for gorgeous coloring—Large lakes—Many large streams and waterfalls—Vast wilderness, one of the greatest wild bird and animal preserves in world.
Sequoia..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	604	The Big Tree National Park—The Giant Forest alone contains hundreds of sequoias over 10 feet in diameter, and many 25 feet in diameter—Sugar pines, white fir, yellow pine and incense cedar all attain their greatest development—Loftiest region of High Sierra including Mount Whitney.
Yosemite..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	1,126	An immense granite wilderness replete with world-famous spectacles—The Yosemite Valley acknowledged the most beautiful in existence—Many waterfalls of extraordinary height—Great forests, including three groves of giant sequoias—A paradise for trail riders and campers.
General Grant..... 1890	Middle eastern California.....	4	Created to preserve the famous General Grant Tree, more than 30 feet in diameter, and the splendid forest which surrounds it.
Mount Rainier..... 1899	West central Washington.....	325	Largest accessible single peak glacier system—28 glaciers, some of large size—48 square miles of glacier, 50 to 500 feet thick—Wonderful subalpine wild flower fields, surrounded by an extraordinary forest belt.
Crater Lake..... 1902	Southwestern Oregon.....	249	Lake of extraordinary depth and color filling crater of prehistoric Mount Mazama, a volcano which collapsed within itself—Six miles in diameter, brilliantly colored lava sides 1,000 feet high.
Wind Cave..... 1903	South Dakota.....	17	Limestone cavern having many miles of galleries and numerous chambers.
Platt..... 1904	Southern Oklahoma.....	1½	Conserving mineral springs—Serves City of Sulphur as a city park.
Sullys Hill..... 1904	North Dakota.....	1½	Wild life reservation administered by U. S. Biological Survey.
Mesa Verde..... 1906	Southwestern Colorado.....	80	Most notable and best preserved cliff dwellings in the United States—Forested mesas eroded from the Rockies and again eroding into the desert.
Glacier..... 1910	Northwestern Montana.....	1,534	Rugged mountain region of unsurpassed romantic beauty and extraordinary individuality—250 glacier-fed lakes—60 small glaciers—Precipices thousands of feet deep—Product of an overthrust revealing by erosion richly tinted pre-Cambrian strata overlying rocks comparatively recent.
Rocky Mountain..... 1915	North middle Colorado.....	378	The heart of the granite Rockies—Snowy Front Range carrying the continental divide with peaks from 11,000 to 14,255 feet in altitude—Remarkable records of the glacial period.
Hawaii..... 1916	Hawaii.....	245	Three separate areas—Kilauea and Mauna Loa on Hawaii, Haleakala on Maui—Includes the world famous "Lake of Everlasting Fire."
Lassen Volcanic..... 1916	Northern California.....	163	Only active volcano in United States proper—Lassen Peak 10,460 feet—Cinder Cone 6,907 feet—Hot springs—Mud geysers.
Mount McKinley..... 1917	South central Alaska.....	2,645	Encloses the heart of the Great Alaskan Range with Mount McKinley rising 20,300 feet, seen from an altitude of 3,000 feet—Colossal glaciers—Immense herds of caribou—Mountain sheep in large numbers.
Grand Canyon..... 1919	North central Arizona.....	1,009	The greatest example of erosion, and no doubt the spectacle nearest sublimity in all the world—Discloses in its vertical wall strata telling the Story of Creation during hundreds of millions of years.
Acadia..... 1919	Maine coast.....	16	A group of ancient granite mountains on Mount Desert Island remarkable for their beauty, the range of their tree species, and their history.
Zion..... 1919	Southwestern Utah.....	120	"The Rainbow of the Desert." A gorge cut 2,500 feet down through the White Cliff and the Vermilion Cliff of the colorful Plateau Country of Utah. Magnificently carved by erosion—Carries the Story of Creation from the rim of the Grand Canyon up through millions of years.
Hot Springs..... 1921	Middle Arkansas.....	1½	Conserves 46 hot springs with an ancient tradition of curative properties—Park water piped to hotels in adjoining city—19 bathhouses.
Bryce Canyon..... 1928	Southwestern Utah.....	23	Brilliantly colored and richly eroded niche in the Pink Cliff of the Plateau Country—Carries the Story of Creation from Zion National Park still farther up toward modern times.
Grand Teton..... 1929	Northwestern Wyoming.....	150	Ancient granite mountains rising 7,000 feet from Jackson Lake, characteristic of the Rockies before Yellowstone was levelled by volcanic action.

Historical Basis of National Park Standards

By ROBERT STERLING YARD

Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association

WITHIN the first two years of the first National Parks Administration, which began under Stephen T. Mather in 1915, standards were identified and formulated, educational promotion planned and started, policy established and the bureau created. The period is unique in government history.

"I've taken on a big job for the government and want your help," Mather said to me in February, 1915. We were dining in a New York City hotel where he had summoned me by wire to meet him. With the Pacific expositions coming, he explained, Franklin K. Lane, President Wilson's Secretary of the Interior, his classmate in the University of California, had asked him to make Yosemite ready for the crowds.

"Before accepting," Mather continued, "I spent a month with him in Washington looking over the chances. I have been a member of the Sierra Club for years, and had some pretty definite ideas of what park administration ought to be. I knew Yosemite through and through, had spent summers on the trails of the high Sierra, and had climbed Mount Rainier. I told him I would do his job provided he would let me get the National Parks

all together into a businesslike system under a bureau of its own. He told me that it would be all right with him and to go ahead. My big trouble will be to get appropriations, and what I want you to do is to work up a nationwide publicity campaign that will get the people behind the Parks. That will loosen up Congress."

That's how Mather and I got into it. Horace M. Albright, who became his legal assistant, and, on his retirement, succeeded him as Director, was already there. Having graduated from the University of California and its Law School, Albright was observing the operations of mining law in government from the vantage ground of a year's position in the Interior Department preliminary to entering a San Francisco law office.

The Secretary set apart a small staff, several borrowed from other bureaus, and the work started. We began in the old Patent Office at F and Ninth Streets, which then housed the Secretary and his staff, but there was no room for me. Information headquarters were established in the Bureau of Mines, then a block away on E Street, from which the "National Parks Portfolio" and "Glimpses of Our National Parks," later supplemented with a news service, presently started a tidal wave of newspaper and magazine publicity that in time passed far beyond all control, reacting in abundant, ever-increasing appropriations.

The first several years of this first separate parks administration were to be years of momentous construction, but we did not know it. Nor could any one have known that what a few years later was called the Outdoor Recreation Age, then about to be born unrecognized, already was fitting us into the shaping of its own ends, and that a group of National Parks which comparatively few till then even knew existed was to become the turning point of a swift evolution affecting national life in a thousand ways.

To our prejudging, intensely centered minds, the National Park publicity that followed the free distribution of 275,000 copies of the National Parks Portfolio represented solely the people's joy in discovering the existence of so noble a possession as our National Parks system. It required the perspective of ten years of after development to show us what had actually happened, namely, that we had been advertising super-fascinating travel goals to several million potential motor tourists impatient for the long road; for motor touring was then in its very beginning, awaiting only inspiring objectives and leadership. I recall Mather urging Desmond, the new Yosemite concessioner, to build a hotel in the Valley. Desmond couldn't see where the patronage would come from to make it profitable.

NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Distinguishes Between National and State Responsibilities

Resolution May 13, 1926

THE Chamber of Commerce of the United States has earlier expressed its interest in the creation of national parks. It believes the primary responsibility of the federal government in the establishment or maintenance of national parks is to preserve those features of our landscape where, in sufficiently large areas, the scenery is so unusually beautiful and is so characteristic of its kind, and where consequently it has so great an educational or other value, that it may be considered a heritage of the whole nation rather than a recreational facility for the inhabitants of adjacent territory.

The primary responsibility for supplying recreational facilities for the people of states and municipalities lies with the states and municipalities themselves.

A NATIONAL PARK CREED

BY JOHN C. MERRIAM

President Carnegie Institution of Washington

*Chairman National Parks Association's
Advisory Board on Educational and
Inspirational Use of National Parks*

WHILE the National Parks serve in an important sense as recreation areas, their primary uses extend far into that fundamental education which concerns real appreciation of nature. Here beauty in its truest sense receives expression and exerts its influence along with recreation and formal education. To me the parks are not merely places to rest and exercise and learn. They are regions where one looks through the veil to meet the realities of nature and of the unfathomable power behind it.

I CANNOT say what worship really is—nor am I sure that others will do better—but often in the parks, I remember Bryant's lines, "Why should we, in the world's riper years, neglect God's ancient sanctuaries, and adore only among the crowd, and under roofs that our frail hands have raised?" National Parks represent opportunities for worship through which one comes to understand more fully certain of the attributes of nature and its Creator. They are not objects to be worshipped, but they are altars over which we may worship.

"Why, look at those cars!" Mather cried. "There must be two hundred of them. Where's your imagination? Some day there'll be a thousand."

"Maybe," said Desmond skeptically. (131,689 cars visited Yosemite in 1928.)

In spite of Mather's optimism, it did not seem specially significant to us in the years immediately following that nearly all the enormous increase of park visitors came by motor, nor did we know till long afterwards that travel very much greater in proportion was also swamping the National Forests.

As I look back at this little group which was accepting a public charge with so much greater solemnity than it had been offered them, and was about to become the determining agency in a major movement of civilization whose very existence it did not suspect, I have a vivid resurgence of the sense of romance which impressed us all during these beginnings and beyond any question flavored the public presentment. To these men, undoubtedly, if not to many others concerned with the remarkable National Park furor which followed fast, this was high adventure.

At the very beginning arose among us the question: What are National Parks anyway? Everyone knew generally and no one knew specifically. Albright, the lawyer, searched law book and records in vain for a definition. Mather and I asked officials, members of Congress, park-makers in the West, seers generally

wherever found. A dozen definitions differed radically.

In the absence of legal definition we decided finally to adopt the works of Congress from the beginning as the expression of its purpose. The Parks themselves must furnish the definition. During the forty-four years since making the first National Park, Yellowstone, Congress had created fifteen in all, three of which were so small and absurdly lacking in quality as plainly to be careless creations of politics. Excluding these, we found that National Parks were areas of unmodified natural conditions, each the finest of its type in the country, preserved forever as a system from all industrial uses; and this definition became our guide. Under it, the system was accepted everywhere as the expression of the genius of the country and of the unwritten but nevertheless recorded will of Congress.

Mather began work in January, 1915, and in March held a National Park conference in Berkeley, California. It was on the way to this conference that I joined the group. On the park tour which Mather and I made at its close was born the idea and purpose of utilizing for popular education the Story of Creation written in the rocks in letters of size so great and meaning so plain that none could fail to comprehend. It was my first seeing stupendous natural spectacles, and it seemed to me well worth a plain man's life to promote successfully the use of such an opportunity by the scientists and educators of the country. To these suggestions Mather was alive, and later entitled me "chief of the educational section"—the "section" consisting of one able secretary.

Another idea born during this eventful journey found fulfillment four years later in the creation of the National Parks Association. "With you working outside the government," Mather said, "and with me working inside, together we ought to make the National Park system very useful to the country."

This article is much reduced here from its complete form in National Parks Bulletin, Number 57.

OFFICIAL DEFENDERS OF NATIONAL PARK STANDARDS

PRESIDENTS of the United States from Woodrow Wilson, inclusive, down have defended in act or word the integrity of the National Park System from its first endangering by bills in Congress attacking its standards.

All the Secretaries of the Interior, also, from Franklin K. Lane, inclusive, down, except only Secretary Fall, have upheld its standards. Secretary Fall attempted to create a National Park below standard in his own State, but failed against an uprising of the people.

PAST PRESIDENTS: HENRY B. F. MACFARLAND, CHARLES D. WALCOTT, HERBERT HOOVER, GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

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OBJECTS

1. To conserve nature and win all America to its appreciation and study.
2. To encourage use of the National Parks System for enjoyment of its unsurpassed spiritual and educational value.
3. To protect National Parks against whatever may tend to disturb their continuity of natural conditions or to diminish their effectiveness as supreme expressions of beauty and majesty in nature.
4. To promote use of National Parks for purposes of popular education and scientific investigation.
5. To promote a national recreational policy under which publicly owned lands of the nation shall be equipped for recreational service of the people so far as this is consistent with other requirements.
6. To protect wild birds, animals and plants, and conserve typical areas existing under primitive conditions.
7. To aid specialist organizations, and to interest organizations of many kinds and the people generally, in these objectives.

FRANK R. OASTLER

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